

# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2007

Volume 8 Issue 4

## Grab & Go Emergency Communication Station - Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ

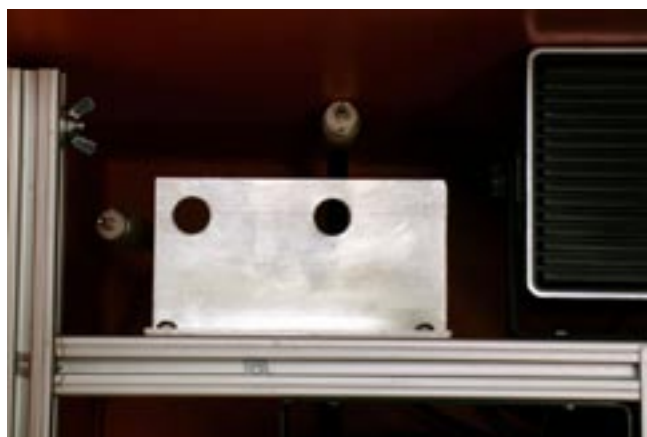
[Part 1 of this article appeared in the March 2007 ACHN]

### Part 2

The Icom 208H has a rear jack for an external speaker. With the transceiver speaker buried in the box, the forward facing external speaker is a necessity. I used a Radio Shack 8 ohm external speaker, but I also wanted a jack for headphones. A heavy duty toggle switch allows me to select the audio output. The toggle switch, 1/4" headphone jack and SO-239 bulkhead connector are mounted on an aluminum plate fastened to the 80/20 frame using the square nut and slotted T-channel method.

I selected an MFJ model 862 3-band SWR power meter because of its small size and rear mounted SO-239 connectors. Mounting the meter to the 80/20 frame presented a challenge because I couldn't use the square nut and T-channel method through the meter case. I used some angle aluminum to fashion a bracket. I drilled 5/8" holes with the proper spacing in one leg of the bracket so the two SO-239 connectors on the meter back slipped through the holes. The other bracket leg can be mounted to the 80/20 frame using the square nut and T-channel method. The meter is held in place against the bracket when the coax PL-259 connectors are mated to the SO-239 connectors.

Power for the station is supplied by a 12 V 75 Ah deep-cycle UPS battery connected through a short red/black zip cord pigtail. To



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Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza at arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

**Deadline for May issue is Friday, 4/27/07.**  
**Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!**

### Internet Home Pages:

**Fort Wayne Radio Club:**  
<http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org>

**ACARTS:**

<http://www.acarts.com>

**Ft Wayne DX Association:**

<http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/>

# Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

## Officers

### President:

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## Board of Directors

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WB9UZA 485-7472  
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## President's Corner



The native Hoosiers are correct when they say, "If you don't like the weather, wait a while it will change"! Having lived here all my life, I have used that phrase many times. This week has been no exception with temperatures near 80 at the beginning of the week and near freezing near the end. Al I can promise is that summer will come and it will be here before you know it.

Many thanks to Mike (WB9DLC) and Terry (N9ZI) for their excellent presentation on CW operations they gave at the last club meeting. It was well received and I have many favorable comments on the air. It is great to see the interest in the CW mode despite the recent changes in licensing requirements. Many of the attendees have dusted off their keys (or keyers, as the case may be) and have made some CW contacts as a result of the presentation.

April's meeting will once again be focused on emergency preparedness. Joseph (KB9RFZ) will be presenting his portable station that he has assembled. (See part 2 of his article in this issue of the Hamsplatter). In addition, many other members will be bringing in stations that they have assembled for this purpose. If you have something that you would like to share at the meeting, feel free to bring it along. I have always enjoyed these types of meetings as there are always great ideas presented.

The board continues to pursue options relating to the power situation at the repeater site. A committee headed by Al (WB9SSE) has been researching various ideas for reducing the power consumption as well as providing emergency power capabilities. Stay tuned as the board sorts through these various options. Plans are also in the works to install a fence around the shack to deter "copper thieves" and to secure the trailer. Watch for announcements, as we will certainly

need a work detail to install the fence.

Hard to believe that the May banquet is right around the corner. A special presentation is in the works, but we have not completed the details. Please plan on attending the banquet on May 18, 2007. I can assure you the food will be great.

Finally, the club will be hosting Field Day at the Girl Scout Camp once again. The weekend is always filled with great operating, good food and above all, camaraderie.

The Walk-A-Thon season is just beginning. Listen for announcements on the repeaters as we can always use more help with these activities.

See you at the meeting.

73  
Jim  
KB9WWM

## April Meeting

**Fri., April. 20, 7:00 PM**  
**PROGRAM: Emergency Preparedness**





## **Fort Wayne Radio Club Minutes 16 March 2007**

The March 2007 meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 16 March 2007 with President Jim Moehring as the host. There were about 25 persons present.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Jim Moehring started the meeting by calling all to attention for the pledge of allegiance.

There were no prior meeting minutes read as there were no business meetings at the December 2006 or January and February 2007 club get-togethers given these events included the Christmas Banquet, the Club Auction and the Skywarn meeting co-hosted with ACARTS

Al Burke read the Treasurer's report in Bob Streeter's absence. As of 14 March 2007 the club had realized a year-to-date income of \$1,126.25, & year-to-date expenses of \$798.86. The club had cash on hand of \$34.18 and had \$6,642.08 in checking/savings.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Jim Moehring reported that a Robison Park repeater site upgrade committee had been formed consisting of Jim Pliett, Steve Nardin and Al Burke. The committee had settled upon a list of actions that need to be considered & researched regarding the Robison Park site which included:

1. Developing a cost estimate to erect a chain link fence to surround the repeater shack with provisions to allow storage of the club trailer/generator behind the fence.
2. An upgrade of the receiver in the 146.76 MHz machine to convert it to an "all GE Master II" configuration that will allow operation of the squelch-tail elimination module on this machine.
3. Developing a low energy consumption shack cooling scheme that will eliminate the need to operate the existing air conditioner unit during warm weather. The intent here is to reduce the size of the Robison Park site electric bill.
4. Developing a battery back-up and/or emergency power scheme that will allow uninterrupted operation at Robison Park in the event that primary power fails.
5. Replacement of the existing home-brew controller used for the UHF machine with an

existing club owned S-COMM 7K controller.

Jim noted that the April club meeting will feature a presentation on Emergency Communication preparation and will include demonstrations of Emergency Communication hardware suites that have been developed by several club members. Jim also noted that the May meeting will feature the Spring Banquet, and that the June meeting will include Field Day preparation status and discussions.

Jim announced that arrangements had been made to utilize the Girl Scout Campground facilities again this year for Field Day, and Carole Burke noted that she was making plans to implement the ever popular Hog Roast at the Field Day site Field Day Saturday evening as in the past.

Jim Moehring noted that the new FWRC web site is up and is a work-in-progress. Currently the January and February Allen County Ham newsletters were posted and additional functionality will be added as time goes on.

Jim noted that he, his wife Melody and Vic Guess supported the PBS-Channel 39 fund raiser by answering telephones during the second night of the telethon. Their portion of the telethon included a program featuring Victor Borge and a program featuring the Rolling Stones. They helped raise approximately \$2,000.00 for Fort Wayne Public Broadcasting.

Steve Nardin reported that the March Foxhunt was won by foxhunter Woody Woodbury.

Following the business meeting, Steve Nardin presented a video excerpt from a recent Jay Leno show which featured a contest between a pair of CW enthusiasts, and a pair of Text Messaging experts who had won a national test messaging competition. The contest determined which team could send and receive a certain message quickest. Of course, the two ham CW enthusiast won the contest hands down, much the surprise of the Text Messagers.

Steve's video was the perfect segue into a presentation on CW hosted by Larry Teminoff which featured a discussion and demonstration of the fun and utility of CW operation ably presented by club members Terry Hammons, N9ZI and Mike Barrell, WB9DLC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Burke, WB9SSE

# STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS Officers

### President

Vic Berko, KA9LTV  
(260) 456-2012  
vberko at comcast.net

### Vice President

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OPEN

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### Fundraising Manager

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### W9INX Trustee

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### Tech Committee

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## President's Message



Spring is officially here. That means it is time for our annual Spring Banquet. The date is April 17th and will be held at the Golden Corral on Lima Road. Starting time is 7:00 PM. The club will pay for the cost of the meal for members on record as of March 31, 2007. You may bring a guest, but will have to pay for their meal. Reservations are required, and can be made by sending me a e-mail message or call my phone number and leave a message. The deadline for reservations is Friday, April 13, 2007. No, I am not superstitious. Come and enjoy good food and conversation with your fellow club members.

I hope to get my HF vertical antenna up that I bought at the Hamfest two years ago up this spring. After I get my yard cleaned up from last fall. The weather turned cold early last year, and I did not have a chance to cut down the plants. There is a lot of left over stems that need to be cleaned up to prepare for the new growth. I probably will not plant as much in my vegetable garden this year, as I will not have as much time to tend to it. I am busy with my job, and a garden requires almost daily attention.

I still need your help with program ideas for our general meetings. I do have a good library of videos from the ARRL, but I would prefer a live person to give a presentation. I need your input on what you would like to see. If you have something that you think would be of interest, volunteer to do a program. If you know of someone that may have something of interest, ask them if they would do a program for us. That is all I have for this month. Hope to see you at the Spring Banquet.

73,  
Vic, KA9LTV

## ACARTS Spring Banquet

The annual Spring Banquet takes place of the April General Meeting. The banquet will be on April 17, 2007. It will be held at the Golden



Corral Restaurant on Lima Road. The starting time will be 7:00 PM. The club will be paying for the cost of the meal for members on record as of March 31, 2007. You may bring a guest, but will have to pay for their meal. Reservations are required. You may make a reservation by sending e-mail to Vic, KA9LTV. The address is vberko at comcast.net. You can also call 456-2012 and leave a message.



## Meeting Schedule

**Spring Banquet:** April. 17, 7:00 PM. - Golden Corral, Lima Rd.

**Next Board Meeting:** May. 8, 7:30 PM All members are encouraged to attend.





## News

ARMAD 2007

Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day will be held on May 26, 2007 from 0900 - 1200 at Georgetown Square in Fort Wayne, and at various locations around the Country. Many new Amateur Radio Clubs have expressed

interest in joining the event on the air this year.

ARMAD was featured on the "United We Roll" Stardust Internet Radio Show on March 20, 2007. The interview was during the last segment and lasted about 24 minutes. The show's host "Judi" has invited any of the ARMAD locations that would like to promote their local event to also be a guest on future shows.

ARMAD will include displays by the local, County, and State Police, as well as Military Support Groups. The new location, and local media help should make this year's event our best to date.

If you want to operate or just come out please let Bill, N9NAI know or send an email to one of the ARMAD managers listed on our web page at [www.armad.net](http://www.armad.net) under "contacts." Also watch for the article in an upcoming QST and other sources.

Thank you, Let's "Ham It Up For The Troops."

Sincerely;  
Emery / KB9IBW

## Indiana QSO Party May 5

The annual Indiana QSO Party is set for Saturday May 5, 1600 UTC to 0400 UTC May 6 (noon to midnight EDT).

Indiana amateurs are encouraged to get on the air and make sure the rest of the world hears (and works) Indiana. They will be looking for each of the 92 counties on 80/75, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, CW and SSB.

Local clubs are encouraged to round up their new "HF hams" (and some of their less active members) and give them a chance to experience the receiving end of a pileup. It's great practice for June Field Day, and some clubs are planning to set up Field Day portable operations in some of the "rarer" counties.

As usual, we'll be sure all 92 counties are on the air by using our pool of talented and dedicated mobiles, who usually put a county on the air for less than an hour before they have to move on, but it would be great if there were more fixed or portable stations to activate some of the less populated counties for more than a few hours. Perhaps some of your club's members live in those counties and would like to have some fun being the "bait".

There are plaques for top mobile, fixed, portable and out-of-

## March 2007 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the arrangements had been made for the Spring Banquet to be held at the Golden Corral on Lima road at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17th. The Club will pay for the dinners for all members.

He stated that the program for the March meeting would be an ARRL video on antennas.

Joel, KB9RH, said that the advanced weather seminar went very well.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

## March 2007 ACARTS General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the arrangements had been made for the Spring Banquet to be held at the Golden Corral on Lima road at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17th. The Club will pay for the dinners for all members.

Jim, KB9IH, said that the 2008 Hamfest had been approved as the ARRL State Convention by the ARRL Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG. He is still waiting for approval by the ARRL Board.

After refreshments, an ARRL video on antennas was shown.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

state scores, but there are certificates, too, that don't require a 12 hour effort to win.

There's also a chance to get started on the Worked All Indiana Award for working confirming at least 60 Indiana counties.

Details on INQP and the Worked All Indiana Award are at [www.hdxcc.org](http://www.hdxcc.org). Anybody interested in operating can contact Mel KJ9C, e-mail: [kj9c\(at\)iquest.net](mailto:kj9c(at)iquest.net) who is coordinating mobile activity

Let's make this the best INQP yet and show the world that a little state can make a lot of noise!

Tim N9LF, Mel KJ9C

## Know Your Privileges! Misconceptions Abound Regarding Tech HF Privileges

from *The ARRL Letter* – Some Technician licensees who gained new privileges February 23 remain unaware or uninformed as to what they may and may not do on the HF bands, says ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. In addition to all Amateur Radio operating privileges above 50 MHz, Technicians who never passed a Morse code test now have CW privileges on certain segments of 80, 40 and 15 meters plus CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on certain segments of 10 meters. And that's it. "Know your privileges <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>>," Henderson advises all Amateur Radio licensees. He says some Technicians apparently believe their new HF phone

**"And we all know the devil's in the details. Remember, the FCC requires you to know where you may and may not operate and with what modes. Stick to the privileges your license allows or risk hearing from the FCC."**

privileges go far beyond what they really have.

"Technicians have no phone privileges on any HF band other than 10 meters, period!" Henderson emphasizes. "That's the bottom line. If you want to operate phone on the other HF bands, you'll have to upgrade to General or Amateur Extra class."

A lot of Technician licensees appear to have done just that,

according to statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A <<http://ah0a.org/FCC/Licenses.html>>. So far in March, the number of General class licensees is up by more than 2700 over the February figure to 134,173, after hitting a 5-year low of just under 131,000 in January. The number of Technicians dropped by 4655 in the same period to 318,838. Speroni notes, however, that his mid-month figures tend to underestimate actual totals.

Most Technician license holders face a learning curve to take advantage of their new CW privileges on HF, but they no longer have to pass a Morse code examination. Technicians also may use their new HF privileges without having to apply for them first. No other license class automatically acquired additional privileges February 23. The "omnibus" rule changes effective last December 15 did not give Technician licensees without Morse code credit any additional privileges either.

Henderson further warns new Techs not to extrapolate additional phone privileges by misconstruing the FCC Part 97 rules to mean something they don't.

"Calls I've been getting lately indicate that some misinformed individuals believe Technicians may operate 'digital voice' on 80, 40 and 15, where they have only CW privileges," he says. "Not true. Digital voice is really digitized voice, and it's not permitted in non-phone band

segments."

Henderson reiterates that Technicians do not have FM voice privileges on 10 meters -- or on any other HF band, for that matter.

The HF privileges all Technicians now have are equivalent to those that Novice licensees enjoy, Henderson notes. "This also means the 200 W maximum power limit still applies, regardless of where you operate in the HF bands," he says. Technicians may operate at up to the legal limit on VHF and UHF, however.

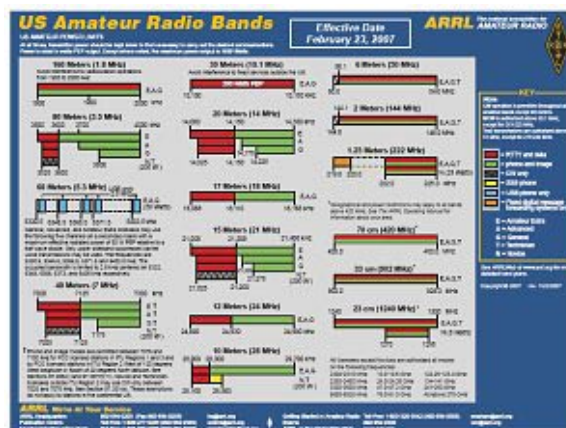
On 10 meters, Technician and Novice licensees have CW, RTTY and data privileges from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and CW and SSB privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz. "We're sorry that the sunspots aren't favoring 10 meters at this point in the sunspot cycle, but they will in a few years," Henderson allowed.

In addition, Technicians and Novices have CW -- and only CW -- privileges on from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, from 7.025 to 7.125 MHz on 40 meters and 21.025 to 21.200 MHz on 15 meters.

Henderson believes at least some of the confusion may have originated with a few brand-new or inexperienced Technician licensees who heard that the FCC deleted the Morse code requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license, but paid little attention to the fine print.

"And we all know the devil's in the details," Henderson says. "Remember, the FCC requires you to know where you may and may not operate and with what modes. Stick to the privileges your license allows or risk hearing from the FCC."

A chart of US Amateur Radio Bands can be downloaded from the ARRL at: <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>>



## Indiana Section News for February 2007

The following Amateur Radio Operators became a Silent Key (SK) during February: Homer Keesling WB9OZZ Feb 4th, White-land; Jim Fonte K9FI, Feb 18th, LaPorte; Edmond A Metzger W9PRN, Feb 28th, Springfield, IL. A Charter Life ARRL member, Ed held a number of offices and appointments. Ed was the Central Division Director from 1981 to 2001. Ed was also an honorary Vice-President of the ARRL, and President Emeritus of the ARRL Foundation. Condolances to the Family and Friends of these amateurs. They will be missed.



Time for a reminder about 2-meter FM activity, especially when using repeaters, which we all do. Of all the amateur frequencies and modes that we hams have access to, 2-meters is THE most public band that we use. By this, I mean that anyone can be listening to the local repeater at ANY time of the day or night. Consider for a moment how many programmable scanner receivers have been bought by hams and by the non-ham public. The listening public can get a very bad image of amateur radio if a couple of hams carry on a risque conversation, or a conversation that is truly stupid. For example, several years ago, I was monitoring a local repeater. Two hams were in a QSO. What brought me up short in my chair was the subject of their conversation.....They were discussing the b.m. elimination habits of their dogs!....What kind of impression does this leave with Joe Citizen, who is not a ham??? So, have fun on the air, but PLEASE think about what topic you are discussing. You never know who is out there listening (a City Councilman, the Mayor, an EMA Director, a Fire Chief, County Commissioner, ETC., etc.). Even at 3:00am, you don't know who might be monitoring the local repeater...

From Dave Pifer N9YNF, Indiana SEC: Several people participated with Operation Deep Freeze based out of New York RACES on Feb 10th. Communications on 40M was the only open channel to New York for the exercise. Thanks to all who participated in this event. Several counties then participated in our own version of Operation Deep Freeze just a few days later. Northern Indiana had Blizzard conditions while the further south you went the conditions changed to a mix and then to rain.

Marion County disaster exercise announcement: Marion County will be the focus of a Disaster Exercise in May, from the 10th thru the 13th. Working in cooperation with Emergency Management, Amateur Radio will have an active role and Mike Palmer N9FEB is the ham radio Point of Contact. The Communications Plan is still a 'work in progress' and volunteers are needed. This exercise will involve the use of VHF/UHF repeaters, Simplex operations, and HF. All MARS groups and the IDHS Ham Team have been identified as players' as well. This exercise take place over a wide geographical area. In support of the Marion County Disaster Exercise the Indiana Traffic Net on 3910KHz and the section ARES net on 3910KHz or 7280KHz +/- 20 KHz for QRM are anticipated to be utilized for this event.

As most everyone knows, with the elimination of the Morse Code requirement on February 23, Technician licensees gained new HF privileges. Many of these Technician licensees may not have the correct information, or may be misinformed as to what these privileges are. I would urge everyone to check out the story on the League's website about this topic. [www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/03/20/100/?nc=1](http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/03/20/100/?nc=1) According to Dan Henderson N1ND, at League Hq, he has been getting calls that indicate some misinformed individuals believe Technicians may operate 'digital voice' on 80, 40, and 15, where they have only CW privileges, "Not True," he says. So, to those who wish to be fully informed, please check out this story at the above URL.

INDIANA QSO PARTY - From Mel KJ9C: The 2007 Indiana QSO Party will be Saturday May 5, 1600Z - 0400Z. There will be plaques for top portable, mobile, fixed, and out of state scores. And certificates for "significant effort" such as turning in a big score and NOT winning, or activating the most counties. For rules and complete information, go to: [www.hdxcc.org](http://www.hdxcc.org)

The following VHF/UHF Net Managers reported their net's activity during December: KC9BHI, KA9KOG, N9ZMY, KC9IFU, KE9WI, WD9HTN, KB9UAG, KF9EX, NA9L, WD9BKA, WB9NCE, WR9G, W3ML, W9THD, and KA9QWC. If your net manager's callsign does not appear here, then no report of your net's activity was sent to John Kinley KC9BHI, Indiana Section VHF/UHF Net Manager. <kc9bhj@arrl.net> Please be certain to report your VHF/UHF net activity to him.

My thanks to all those club newsletter editors who send me a complimentary copy of their club's newsletter. I do read them.

### February Section Net Activity:

NET	FREQ	DAILY TIMES (UTC)	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESS	
ITN	3910 KHZ	1230/2030		2786	135	1265	56
QIN	3656 KHZ	1330/2300	129	111	740	50	
ARES	3910 KHZ	4TH SUN/MO @ 1200Z	9	0	14	1	
HOOSIER VHF NETS 15 REPORTING			992	17	5757	88	
HOOSIER DIGITAL NETS (2)		NO RPT RECD					

February ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 175, K9GBR 100, W9PC 15, AB9AA 12, N9HM 12, KA9QWC 10.

73,

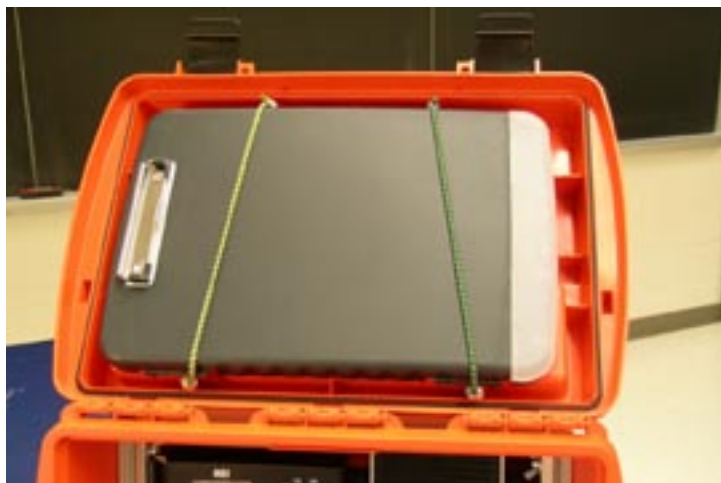
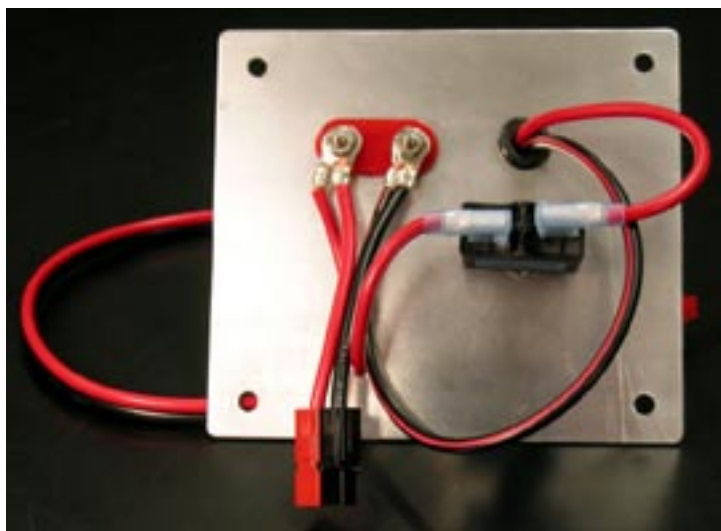
ARRL Indiana Section  
Section Manager: James S. Sellers, K9ZBM  
[k9zbm@arrl.org](mailto:k9zbm@arrl.org)



**E-comm Station, cont'd from pg. 1**

maintain interoperability, I used a 30 A Anderson Powerpole connector observing the proper polarity orientation. The 30 A Powerpoles have replaced Molex connectors as the standard power connector for ARES groups across the nation. Instead of using an inline fuse tucked away inside the box, I purchased a 12 Vdc 20 A manual reset circuit breaker sold for marine applications. The circuit breaker chassis mounts to the aluminum plate next to the power pigtail and interrupts the positive polarity cable. I installed a pair of banana jack plugs across the power lines to use as a test point for battery voltage. A small multimeter stored in the box lid compartment will monitor the input voltage.

The box lid interior is criss-crossed with plastic ribs. I saw this as an opportunity to mount bungee cords to hold useful



operating aids such as operator's license, message forms, technical guides, and maybe a city/county map. I found a plastic note keeper that can double as a clipboard at Office Depot. It fits the lid ideally and doesn't interfere with the IC-208H front panel when the lid is closed.

For Christmas, I placed an order with Mrs. Claus for a mag-mount dualband antenna. I researched several models on Eham reviews before selecting the Austin 500C. This small antenna functions as a ground independent 1/2 wave radiator on 70 cm and a 1/4 wave radiator using the vehicle as the ground plane on 2 m. The design incorporates a resonant cavity base and elevated feedpoint to achieve a low radiation angle. Many Eham reviewers conducted side-by-side tests with popular 5/8 wave antennas and the Austin 500C beat them hands down on both receive and transmit. For a portable base station antenna, I purchased the dualband J-pole from Arrow Antenna. I picked up a 20' aluminum telescoping mast at the Fort Wayne Hamfest and mounted it to a heavy duty tripod. Using the IC-208H and the Arrow J-pole on this mast, I've QSO'd through the 444.55 MHz repeater in Columbia City from my driveway on the East side of Fort Wayne.

I haven't field tested my portable EmComm station during an emergency drill or public service event yet. I've used it to check into the Dekalb County, Adams County, and Van Wert, OH ARES/RACES nets from my QTH in Fort Wayne. In my van, I use the station with the box in the upright position, but it can be laid on its side for tabletop operation with the lid removed or hinged back. If the FWRC ever has an ARES/RACES drill or a real emergency and my assignment calls for more than an HT, now I'm better prepared with this portable grab and go emergency communications station.

**For Sale, continued from pg. 10**

For Sale:

- Apple MacBook "Core Duo" 2.0 13-Inch (1280x800) laptop computer, white, 2.0 GHz Intel "Core Duo" processor, 1 GB RAM, 4X slot-loading double layer read DVD/CD-RW, 802.11g, Bluetooth 2.0+EDR, Gigabit Ethernet, a FireWire "400" port, two USB 2.0 ports, and optical digital audio in/out, along with video out capabilities (mini-DVI), a built-in iSight video camera. Includes brand new battery & Office 2004.
- Apple A1016 Bluetooth keyboard
- Logitech M-RBB93 Bluetooth 2 button/scroll mouse
- Targus PA-248 dual fan USB powered cooling fan

It was all purchased in July 2006, and was only used August through October 2006. Will sell as a package for \$1100. Contact Don Gagnon, 260-484-3317, dongagnon@comcast.net





## Test Points

12-Apr-2007  
 Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC  
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: PAUL F COREY  
 (574)262-4414  
 Email: K9MV@ARRL.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER  
 HOMAN BUILDING  
 GREENCROFT BLVD  
 GOSHEN, IN 46525

22-Apr-2007  
 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED  
 Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)  
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH  
 (419)795-5763  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA  
 1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY  
 HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING  
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

28-Apr-2007  
 Sponsor: W5YI-VEC -- WHITLEY COUNTY ARC  
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER  
 (260)503-9008  
 Email: N9QCL@ARRL.NET  
 VEC: W5YI VEC  
 Location: PEABODY LIBRARY  
 1160 E STATE ROAD 205  
 COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

05-May-2007  
 Sponsor: W5YI VEC - ALLEN COUNTY  
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: JULIAN F FRANKE III, W9TQA  
 (260)484-1728  
 VEC: W5YI VEC  
 Location: ANTHONY WAYNE AREA BOY SCOUT COUNCIL HQ  
 8315 W JEFFERSON BLVD  
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46804

23-Jun-2007  
 Sponsor: UNSPONSORED  
 Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)  
 Contact: ROBERT E HIGH

(419)795-5763  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA  
 1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY  
 HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING  
 VAN WERT, OH 45891

12-Jul-2007  
 Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC  
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: PAUL F COREY  
 (574)262-4414  
 Email: K9MV@ARRL.NET  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER  
 HOMAN BUILDING  
 GREENCROFT BLVD  
 GOSHEN, IN 46525

28-Jul-2007  
 Sponsor: W5YI-VEC -- WHITLEY COUNTY ARC  
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER  
 (260)503-9008  
 Email: N9QCL@ARRL.NET  
 VEC: W5YI VEC  
 Location: PEABODY LIBRARY  
 1160 E STATE ROAD 205  
 COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

## 2007 Foxhunt Schedule

April 2 6:30 PM  
 May 7 6:30 PM  
 June 4 6:30 PM  
 July 2 6:30 PM  
 Aug 6 6:30 PM  
 Sept 10 6:30 PM  
 Oct 1 6:30 PM  
 Nov 4 1:30 PM  
 Dec-No Hunt



All foxhunts start at off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.

Carl, N9NRO

## Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
15 Apr 2007	Miami County, IN Fairgrounds	765-517-1581	<a href="http://www.ncihamfest.com">http://www.ncihamfest.com</a>
21 Apr 2007	Milford, MI	810-632-5174	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk">http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk</a>
29 Apr 2007	Sandwich, IL Fairgrounds	815-895-3219	<a href="http://www.kish-club.org">http://www.kish-club.org</a>
18-20 May 2007	Dayton, OH		<a href="http://www.hamvention.org/">http://www.hamvention.org/</a>
10 Jun 2007	DuPage County, IL Fairgrounds	708-442-4961	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/k9ona">http://www.qsl.net/k9ona</a>
22 Jul 2007	Van Wert Co., OH Fairgrounds	419-238-2812	<a href="http://www.w8fy.org">http://www.w8fy.org</a>

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm> or <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>



## 2007 Advanced Spotter Training

Could Tornado Alley be shifting into our part of the country? According to veteran storm spotter Chris Novy, it is possible because of the drought conditions in the Great Plains. Mr Novy was one of three experts who spoke to 362 participants at an advanced storm spotter training session held Saturday March 10 in Elkhart.

Other speakers included Purdue University professor Dr Jeff Trapp, who spoke about the "state of tornadoes", and Todd Holsten of the National Weather Service who gave a presentation on downbursts and interpreting radar displays.

The most important point brought out in the seminar is that we as spotters should report only what we see; in other words, don't forecast. The words "tornado" or "funnel cloud" should not be spoken unless you are actually observing one or the other (we're all guilty of this!). Your report should be scientific and accurate with no speculation. This is similar to what has already been stated in our basic training sessions: assume you are observing nothing, then build your case.

From a safety aspect, Mr Novy emphasized the fact lightning can strike well ahead of the parent thunderstorm cell. If you are a mobile spotter, listen on the lower end of the AM broadcast band for a "zipper" sound. This indicates a buildup of static electricity in the atmosphere and may indicate the possibility of a nearby lightning strike. Avoid contact with vehicles, fences, and radio equipment.

Also, if you are mobile spotting and need to stop because of reduced visibility, pull completely off the road. Be aware of your environment, especially poles with electrical power lines. Straight-line winds can snap the poles, then the poles or live electrical wires could fall onto your vehicle. This relates to a statement Mr Novy made at the beginning of his presentation: warnings do not save lives. Actions save lives.

During the panel discussion at the end of the day, the speakers were asked what are the most important things we can do as spotters. The answers from the experts: don't jump to conclusions, and keep educating ourselves. (Speaking of continuing education, I did find a website with basic, advanced, and chasing modules. Go to <<http://spotterguides.us>> and click on the learning module of interest).

All in all, a very informative session. Allen County was well represented, further emphasizing our commitment

to helping the National Weather Service do it's job of saving lives and property. The next advanced training session in our area is scheduled for the second Saturday of March 2009.

What kind of year is 2007 going to be? According to the speakers at the seminar, that is unknown at this time. However, there have been 44 tornado deaths so far this year - not a good start considering the 30-year annual average of 65. But last year the season started out very active in February and March - then almost no severe weather in the entire country the rest of the year.

from Joel KB9RH

## For Sale & Wanted

### For Sale:

1) New in box Kenwood TM-261A VHF FM Transceiver. Has never been used. Short description of unit follows:

Mobile communications is easier thanks to the Kenwood TM-261A 2 meter transceiver. It is fully equipped, sturdily built and supremely user-friendly. The TM-261A provides 50 watts output (50/10/5 watts). All 61 memory channels can be identified alphanumerically. The TM-261A includes airband receive, auto-power off and auto repeater offset.

Choose from several scan modes: full band scan, programmable band scan, and memory scan with programmable memory channel lock-out. There are also two scan stop modes: TO (time-operated) and CO (carrier-operated). The supplied multi-function microphone has backlit keys to facilitate operation in low-light situations. Up to ten 15-digit DTMF codes with ID can be stored for auto-dial and autopatch use. Redial is also provided. Size: 5.5 x 1.7 x 6.7 inches 2.2 Lbs (140x40x162mm 1 kg). Requires 13.8 VDC @11 amps. Includes MC-58DM backlit DTMF mic with modular plug.

Price: \$125.00

2) Lambda Model LM B6 power supply. Input, 120 VAC, 60 Hz. Output 6 volts DC, +/- %5 adjustable, 3.2 amps. \$10.00.

Contact: Al Burke, WB9SSE  
260-637-1989  
woffermom@cs.com

\* \* \*

Wanted: Tube type amateur radio gear and related accessories that might be suitable for restoration, use, & display. Need not be working, but all the parts should be there. Father & Daughter would like to start our own mini-museum. Ron Hensel, K9ZE, K9ze@aol.com, 260-622-7040

**continued on pg. 8**

## Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS - and/or - ☐ FWRC

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_-4 Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted? ☐ Yes

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$12.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

### A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Regular membership                     | <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year |
| Additional family members <sup>1</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year  |
| Student membership <sup>2</sup>        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year  |
| Associate membership <sup>3</sup>      | <input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year  |

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Regular membership                | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 / year |
| Family membership <sup>1</sup>    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$21.00 / year |
| Student membership <sup>2</sup>   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year  |
| Associate membership <sup>3</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 / year |
| Mailed newsletter premium         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year |

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. unlicensed member

4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS  
PO Box 10342  
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Fort Wayne Radio Club.  
PO Box 15127  
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club. **Payment by check is strongly encouraged!**

### **ACARTS Voice Repeaters**

- 146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority
- 147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority\*
- 443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

### **ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)**

- 144.390 (s) APRS - wide

### **Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters**

- Voice: 146.76 (-) General use  
 146.94 (-) General use with autopatch  
 146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater  
                   Node number 16636  
 444.875 (+) General use
- ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

### **Area Traffic Nets**

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

**Tri State Two Meter Net:** meets daily at 7 p.m. on 147.015+

**21 Repeater Group:** meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. on 147.150

**Help and Swap Net:** Mondays at 8:30 p.m. 146.94(-)

**6 Meter SSB/AM Net:** 2nd & last Tuesday of the month at 8:00 pm  
 EDT or EST on 50.580 MHz Net controls: K9RFZ & W9SAN

### **Miscellaneous Nets**

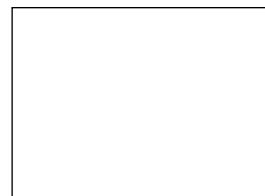
**Huntington ARES:** Saturday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685

**Whitley Co. / ARES:** Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. on 145.270 (Note  
 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

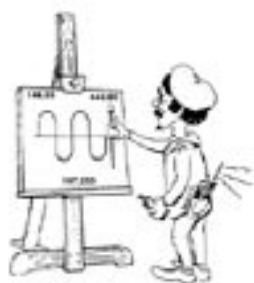
**Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sundays at 7:45 p.m. on 444.550 +. (The  
 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been  
 dropped.)

**160 Meter "No-Name" Net:** Sunday and Wednesday nights at 8:00  
 PM Indiana time. On 1966 kHz. Everyone welcome!

Allen County HamNews  
PO BOX 10342  
FORT WAYNE, IN 46851



TO:



W9INX/R



## Activities Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
4/17/07	7:00 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	Golden Corral on Lima Road
4/20/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
4/27/07	---	deadline for May ACHN items	
5/1/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
5/7/07	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
5/8/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
5/11/07	6:00 PM	FWRC Spring Banquet	GSUMC
5/15/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
5/18-20/07		Dayton Hamfest	Dayton, OH
6/1/07	---	deadline for June ACHN items	
6/4/07	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
6/5/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
6/12/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
6/15/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
6/19/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
6/23-24/07		Field Day	McMillen Girl Scout Camp
7/2/07	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.